

I rise today not to add commentary to the unfortunate accident, but rather to recognize the goodwill and altruism that is very much a part of America in a post-September 11 world.

Mr. Speaker, the fire, police and ambulance services, along with the local hospitals, all reacted swiftly to the accident. There were bystanders who rushed to the scene to offer aid and comfort to those who were hurt. One of those bystanders, a convenience store owner, rushed to the scene with cases of bottled water. Another grabbed a first aid kit from her car and rushed to help. Employees from a local telephone company brought dozens of cell phones to the emergency center so people could call their loved ones.

Despite the tragedy of the situation, average Americans rose to the occasion to help strangers and friends alike.

Mr. Speaker, if there is anyone who wonders what makes an American an American, they need only look at the simple acts of kindness and charity that citizens everywhere engage in when something terrible happens. America is the same today as it was in the wake of September 11. It is strong and will remain so regardless of whatever hardships are thrown our way.

#### GROWTH IN THE ECONOMY

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, we heard about the Bush recession on this floor months ago, even though the recession in which we found ourselves had begun a matter of weeks after George Bush became President of the United States. So I am waiting, Mr. Speaker, to begin to hear about the Bush recovery on this floor from our friends on the other side of aisle.

The Department of Commerce announced the economy grew by 5.8 percent in the first quarter of 2002, and even The Washington Post credited tax cuts in part for fueling this recovery.

There is more that needs to be done. There is not yet good news in the area of unemployment, so we must practice fiscal discipline and additional tax relief to certify the Bush recovery. We must make last year's tax cuts permanent, Mr. Speaker, and we must not spend one penny more than the President's request in the upcoming defense supplemental.

Tax relief, fiscal discipline, the cornerstone of the Bush recovery.

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#### BRING OUR CITIZENS HOME

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, well, here we are at the beginning of May 2002. Ludwig Koonz was taken to Italy

in 1994. Jeff Koonz, his father, won court cases prior to that giving him custody. Jeff continues to fight the fight to get his son returned, the U.S. citizen's son returned, to the United States of America.

The mother who took the child, Ilona Staller is still doing her pornography. She still has her Web site up. She is still doing exotic sex shows all over the world, raising her son in that environment. We have not heard from our State Department. We do not know exactly what they are doing about this to fight to bring every U.S. citizen who is outside of this country and who wants to be here in the United States home, where they belong.

All I can ask is that you consider, my colleagues, what you would do if it were your child. Would you sit by complacently, like we are doing; or would you be standing on the shores of our country demanding that every child taken out of our country be returned? Help us bring our children home.

#### STRENGTHEN WELFARE REFORM

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be part of the effort to strengthen the historic 1996 welfare reform law, TANF, or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.

Since 1996, nearly 3 million children have been lifted from poverty. Nine million citizens have left the welfare rolls altogether. And the black child poverty rate is at its lowest point in history.

Mr. Speaker, over the past 6 years, we have found that a paycheck is the best path from poverty to self-sufficiency. The Republican plan and the President's plan will help even more low-income parents know the dignity that comes from a paycheck instead of a welfare check.

Through welfare reform, we can assist even more low-income Americans improve the quality of their lives for themselves and their children.

#### PRAYERS FOR MARTIN AND GRACIA BURNHAM

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 340th day that Martin and Gracia Burnham have been held captive by Muslim terrorists in the Philippines.

Today is May Day, traditionally a festive day to celebrate spring time. This May Day will not be festive for Martin and Gracia. It will be a day of terror, as each of the past 339 days has been. Unfortunately, it will not be a joyous day for their children either, Jeff, Mindy, and Zach. It will another day these children are without their beloved parents.

America has the personnel, the necessary tools, the training, and the ability to rescue Martin and Gracia Burnham from the Islamic terrorists that hold them hostage. All we lack is the political will to do it.

I ask my colleagues: What would you want if you were held captive today by terrorists? I can answer that for you. You would want your government to do everything it possibly could as quickly as it could to get you free. That is exactly what we should encourage our administration to do.

As always, I ask you to join me in prayer for Martin and Gracia and for their loved ones that this nightmare may soon be over.

#### EXPORT-IMPORT BANK REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 402 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

#### H. RES. 402

*Resolved*, That any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2871) to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except